

II. Listing of Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A connecting device (4) for the plug-in connection of at least one pipeline (6), comprising a housing part (2) having at least one receiving opening (4) for the insertion of the pipeline (6), and a clamping ring (8), which is arranged in the receiving opening (4) and, in order to lock the pipeline (6) in place, interacts with an inner cone (46) of the housing part (2), the housing part (2) being made in two parts from a base part (28) and an insert part (32), which is connected to the ~~latter~~ base part via a snap-action form-fitting connection (30) and has the inner cone (46), and the insert part (32) having a dirt seal (34) for resting on the circumference of the inserted pipeline (6), ~~characterized in that the insert part (32) consists~~ formed of a first, relatively hard and dimensionally stable plastic material and the dirt seal (34), consisting of a second, relatively soft and elastic plastic material, is molded directly onto it the first material as a single piece with a cohesive material joint therebetween.

2. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the insert part (32) is of sleeve-shaped design and is ~~inserted~~ insertable ~~or can be inserted~~ into a widened portion (36) of the receiving opening (4) of the base part (28) in a manner ~~such that it provides~~ providing a circumferential seal ~~at least~~ against the penetration of dirt and similar foreign bodies, the insert part (32), in the inserted state, ~~preferably~~ lying completely within the base part (28) and ending flush on the receiving opening side.

3. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterized in that~~ claim 2 wherein the sleeve-shaped insert part (32) has, for the purpose of being able to release the pipeline (6), at least two radially elastic spring arms (40) which are formed by longitudinal slots (38) and engage releasably by means of radially outwardly protruding latching attachments (42) in a form-fitting manner in corresponding latching openings (44) of the base part (28).

4. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the longitudinal slots (38) are filled with the material of the dirt seal (34).

5. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the snap-action form-fitting connection (30) has closed latching elements running in the circumferential direction.

6. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in ~~one of~~ ~~claims 1 to 5, characterized in that~~ claim 1 wherein a supporting sleeve (26) which is coaxial with the plug-in axis (10) is arranged within the base part (28) for the frictional engagement in the inserted pipeline (6).

7. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in ~~one of~~ ~~claims 1 to 6, characterized in that~~ claim 1 wherein the housing (2) can be connected to a further assembly part via at least one connecting section (46).

8. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the connecting section (46) is designed as a pipe attachment (48) for insertion into a the receiving opening.

9. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the base part (28) is designed as a two-component molded part of plastic, the region of the pipe attachment (48) consisting of a relatively soft material and the remaining region consisting of a relatively hard material.

10. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the connecting section (46) is designed as a screw thread attachment (50), in particular as an externally threaded connector.

11. (Currently Amended) The connecting device in particular as claimed in ~~one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that~~ claim 1 wherein the housing part (2) can be inserted with a plug-in section (58) as a press-in cartridge into a connecting opening of an assembly part.

12. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the housing part (2) has, on the circumference of the plug-in section (58), at least one tooth element (64) for the ~~form fitting or frictional~~ engagement in the connecting opening.

13. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 11 ~~or 12, characterized in that~~ wherein the plug-in section (58) has, on its circumference, at least one tooth element (64) which acts in the manner of a thread such that the housing part (2), ~~on the one hand,~~ can be plugged in with the plug-in section (58) axially into the connecting opening and, ~~on the other hand,~~ can further be removed from the connecting opening by unscrewing it.

14. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 12 ~~or 13, characterized in that~~ wherein the housing part (2) or the base part (28) consists of metal, in particular brass, the tooth element or tooth elements (64) of the plug-in section (58) being molded on as a single piece.

15. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 12 ~~or 13, characterized in that~~ wherein the housing part or base part (2, 28) consists of plastic, the tooth element or tooth elements (64) consisting of metal and being embedded in some regions in the plastic.

16. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in ~~one of claims 2 to 15, characterized in that~~ claim 2 wherein the insert part (32), for the circumferential sealing toward the base part (28), ~~is inserted or~~ can be inserted into the base part (28) with a press fit and/or has an outer circumferential sealing bead (70).

17. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the circumferential sealing bead (70) of the insert part (32) consists of an elastic material and, ~~in particular,~~ is molded on as a single piece with a cohesive material joint together with the dirt seal (34) and preferably with the material filling the longitudinal slots (38).

18. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in ~~one of~~ ~~claims 1 to 17,~~ claim 1 wherein the insert part (32) has positioning means (72) on its outer circumference for the automatic aligning on insertion into the base part (28), the positioning means (72) being formed, in particular, by means of two diametrically opposite, radially projecting longitudinal ribs (74) which run axially in the insertion direction and engage in corresponding longitudinal grooves of the base part (28).

19. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in ~~one of~~ ~~claims 1 to 18,~~ claim 1 wherein retaining edges (76, 78) are formed within the insert part (32) following the inner cone (16) as an axial end stop for the clamping ring (16) as an axial end stop for the clamping ring (8).

20. (Currently Amended) The connecting device as claimed in claim 19, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein first retaining edges (76) are formed in the region of the spring arms (40) and second retaining edges (78) are formed in the regions situated between the spring arms (40), the first retaining edges (76) being offset with respect to the second retaining edges (78) by an axial offset (X) in the direction of the inner cone (16) ~~in such a manner that~~ whereby the clamping ring (8), when

subjected to a force (F_z) acting in the pulling-out direction of the pipeline (6), first of all only comes to bear against the first retaining edges (76) and, as a result, the spring arms (40) are subjected to a radially outwardly acting retaining-force component (F_H).